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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/517,243	07/11/2005	Claude Casses	003D.0035.UI(US)	3114
29683	7590	02/09/2006	EXAMINER	
HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP			VU, HIEN D	
4 RESEARCH DRIVE			ART UNIT	
SHELTON, CT 06484-6212			PAPER NUMBER	
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/517,243

Applicant(s)

CASSES ET AL.

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, in claim 9, the feature "one extension leg is crimped with the wire" must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. The specification is objected to because the following are examples of the numbers used for the term which are not consistent: page 5, lines 8 and 23, "walls 31

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and 32", "crimp pieces 31 and 32"; page 7, line 9, "the rear tab 45", line 11, "the contact strip", line 18, "a first tab 45". Applicant is required to review the entire disclosure and make corrections where necessary.

3. Claims 1-9 are objected to because the following are examples of the terms or features which are confusing and unclear: claim 1, line 3, "making possible", line 7, "ensuring a contact", line 10, "characterized in that", lines 10-11, "the transition zone" lacks an antecedent basis; claims 2-9, the terms, "characterized in that"; claim 5, line 2, "the two parts" lacks an antecedent basis; claims 7-8, "the sides each"; claim 9 features is unclear as to how the extension leg could be crimped with the wire since such feature is not shown in the drawings.

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

5. (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Quaranta (874).

Insofar as the claims can be understood, the disclosure of Quaranta, Figs. 1-2 show a conductive metal 2, a rear part 4, a front part 6 having a cage (not labeled), at least one strip 24, a transition part 8, a top 14a having at least one extension leg 20a traversing the transition zone.

As to claim 2, Quaranta shows two assembled parts 14a.

As to claim 3, Quaranta shows each part of the top having an extension leg 20a.

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 4-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quaranta (874) in view of Shi et al. (630) and Heim Mueller (142).

As to claim 4, in absence of any show of criticality by the applicant to form extension leg to be entered the rear part could have been obvious of modification since such change solves no stated problem.

As to claims 5-6, Quaranta does not show the two parts of the top including a tenon and a mortise to be fitted into each other. Shi, Fig. 1 shows two parts of a top 11 including a tenon and a mortise to be fitted into each other. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Quaranta by forming the two parts of the top with a tenon and a mortise, as taught by Shi, in order to secure the two parts of the top to each other.

As to claim 7, Quaranta does not show each of the sides having a tab bending back toward the cage from the rear to the front. Heim Mueller, Fig. 3 shows each side having a tab (9, 10) to bending back toward the interior of the cage from the rear to the front, as taught by Heim Mueller, in order to achieve the desired shape of the tabs.

As to claim 8, Heim Mueller, Fig. 3 shows tabs 18, 22 bending back in the cage from the front toward the back.

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As to claim 9, insofar as the claim can be understood, in absence of any showing of criticality by the applicant to form the extension leg to be extended in between the crimp pieces and being crimped with the wire would have been obvious of modification since such change solves no stated problem.

9. Davis et al., Chaillot, Enomoto, Shima et al., Chaillot et al. and Ohno are cited for disclosure of electrical terminals.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hien D. Vu at telephone number 571-272-2016.

HV

2/6/06



**HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**